

Appl. No. : 10/827,095
Filed : April 19, 2004

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 29, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the following comments. Claims 1 and 10-16 remain pending in the present application.

Applicant understands from point 3 of the Office Action that the Examiner accepted Applicant's terminal disclaimer and has therefore removed the double patenting rejection. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this removal.

Applicant understands from point 8 that the Examiner has acknowledged that, in view of the arguments presented in Applicant's previous response dated September 12, 2005, Claim 10 would not be obvious in view of the prior art if amended to apply the limitation of "a heat compressed non-recessed densified area" to the "upper surface" of the second side edge of the grip. Accordingly, the present amendment to Claim 10 incorporates such a limitation. Applicant believes that the present amendment to Claim 10 puts the claim in condition for allowance. *See* M.P.E.P. 706.07(e) and 37 C.F.R. 116. At the very least Applicant believes the proposed amendment places the claim in better form for appeal. *See id.* Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the proposed amendment.

In view of the previously filed and entered Terminal Disclaimer, the allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner, and the arguments and amendments presented above, Applicant submits that Claims 1 and 10-16 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his agreement with Applicant's previous comments to the reasons for allowance and Applicant respectfully incorporates those same comments in the instant amendment.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited.

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney, Edward A. Schlatter, at (949) 721-2821 (direct line), to resolve such issues promptly.

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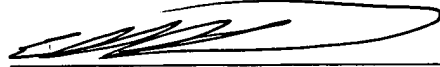
Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: February 27, 2006

By:



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